BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Brown County



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VETERANS RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE

Joe Aulik, Chair
Ed Koslowski, Vice Chair
Joan Brusky, Ken Corry,

Louise Dahlke, Jim Haskins, Kerry Metoxen, Duane Pierce, Jerry Polus

VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETING

Tuesday, September 15, 2020
4:30 pm
SEE BELOW FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO VIRTUALLY
ATTEND THIS VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING

Pursuant to Sections 19.85 and 59.094, Wis. Stats, notice is hereby given to the public that a VIRTUAL MEETING of the VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE will be held on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

The Public may Access this Virtual Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee Meeting by:

- 1) Calling 1-415-655-0003; Entering the following Event Number: 171 914 8229; and Pressing #. Then, when asked for Attendee ID, Pressing # Again (for Audio Only Access); or
- 2) Browsing to this Web Address on a computer or smartphone: www.browncountywi.gov/VetPublic; and Entering the following Event Number: 171 914 8229(for Audio and Video Access). The Event Password should be filled in, but if needed, then Enter 09152020.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COMMITTEE MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

- 1. Call Meeting to Order.
- 2. Approve/Modify Agenda.
- 3. Approve/Modify Minutes of August 18, 2020.
- 4. Invocation.
- 5. Update re: Honor Rewards Program.
- 6. Discussion regarding Veteran Appreciation Day at the Fair.
- 7. Report from CVSO Joe Aulik.
- 8. Report from Committee Members Present (Brusky, Corry, Dahlke, Haskins, Koslowski, Metoxen, Pierce, Polus).
- 9. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.

Joe Aulik, Chair

Notice is hereby given that action by Committee may be taken on any of the items which are described or listed in this agenda. Please take notice that it is possible additional members of the Board of Supervisors may attend this meeting, resulting in a majority or quorum of the Board of Supervisors. This may constitute a meeting of the Board of Supervisors for purposes of discussion and information gathering relative to this agenda.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 19.84, Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the Brown County Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee was held virtually on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 4:30 pm in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

PRESENT: Chair Joe Aulik, Vice Chair Ed Koslowski, Duane Pierce, Ken Corry, Jim Haskins, Joan Brusky

1. Call Meeting to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Joe Aulik at 4:31 p.m.

2. Approve/Modify Agenda.

Motion made by Jim Haskins, seconded by Ed Koslowski to approve. Vote taken. <u>MOTION CARRIED</u> UNANIMOUSLY

3. Approve/Modify Minutes of July 21, 2020.

Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Joan Brusky to approve. Vote taken. <u>MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</u>

4. Invocation.

Jim Haskins gave the invocation at this time.

5. Update re: Honor Rewards Program.

Chair Joe Aulik informed there have not been any changes since last month. He encouraged members to visit the Honor Rewards website to review the participating businesses. Aulik noted veterans occasionally call his office looking for businesses to help with home improvements and things like that and he refers those veterans right to the Honor Rewards website. Aulik mentioned several mortgage companies have signed up for the program which would be helpful for veterans working through the VA home loan process. Corry provided Aulik with the name of a company that may wish to be part of this program and Aulik will reach out to them.

6. Discussion regarding Veterans Appreciation Day at the Fair.

Posters have been printed and posted around town by office staff and members of this Subcommittee. Vice Chair Ed Koslowski informed he has set up the inside display and noted there is a table near the display if Aulik wished to put out any handouts. Aulik encouraged the members of this Subcommittee to keep passing the word that veterans will have free admission to the fair on August 23. Brusky asked who made the decision to go ahead with the fair this year and Aulik responded that the Fair Board made the decision.

7. Report from CVSO Joe Aulik.

Aulik informed things are going well in the office. They are at about \$2.45 million dollars in retro payments and recently had a \$163,000 retro payment and a \$183,000 retro payment. Business is robust. Aulik continued that they recently had some Aid to Needy Veteran grants come in that people are applying for. It is a pretty restrictive grant and they have used them for dental coverage and living expenses.

With regard to staffing, Aulik informed they still have one staff member out on extended disability and they are looking to have an LTE approved to come in and help out. He also talked about the VA home loan program that does not require any money down and no money out-of-pocket. Most lenders do not charge additional closing

costs to the veteran; veterans are typically responsible for prepaid costs, insurance and taxes and that can be rolled into the loan. There is also an interest rate reduction home loan program for people who have VA home loans which allows the refinancing process to be streamlined.

- 8. Report from Committee Members Present (Brusky, Corry, Dahlke, Haskins, Koslowski, Metoxen, Pierce, Polus).
 - -Brusky did not have anything to report, but she thanked Aulik for the good job he is doing for our veterans.
 - -Corry said he was happy to see the Aid for Veterans grants going through because this has been difficult in the past. He also noted that right now the Veterans Housing and Recovery Program (VHRP) is full but there is still a need to help those that are homeless get into housing and/or a stable place. Working with the Center for Veterans Issues has been beneficial as they have been able to get some grant money to get homeless veterans into hotels temporarily until they can get into affordable housing. Corry has seen an uptick in referrals and this may be because of the word getting out as to where veterans can turn for help. He concluded by saying that he and Aulik were on the news recently to talk about where and how veterans can reach out for help when they are in need.

Aulik noted the VHRP is the facility in Bellevue and they have 17 beds. This facility is full at this time. It is not homeless housing; it is a program that helps veterans get back on their feet and get reintegrated back into the community with a job, savings account and counseling already done. There is some recidivism, but overall it is a very good program.

- -Haskins reported that he has been distributing posters for the Fair, including to a new place this year The Booyah Shed.
- -Koslowski did not have anything to add other than what had been discussed earlier.
- -Pierce informed the Pearly Gates ride has been cancelled for this year, but the drawing for the big raffle will be held at Pearly Gates on August 30 in the afternoon, sometime between noon and 5:00 p m. There will be food, music, bucket raffles and live and silent auctions to try to recoup some of the money lost by not having the ride.

Pierce also noted that a car show will be held at the Gateway Bar in Crivitz on September 12 from noon until 3:00 pm. Then from 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm in the park where the wall was set up, they are doing a fundraiser to raise money for a veterans memorial by where the flags were put up when the wall was there.

- 9. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law. None.
- 10. Adjourn.

Motion made by Ken Corry, seconded by Joan Brusky to adjourn at 4:55 pm. Vote taken. <u>MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio Administrative Specialist